

the CHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

November & December 1996 CONTENTS

"Kop's Korner"
News from the
Chitimacha P.D..... 2

Notes from the Tribal
Administrator..... 3

C.D.C..... 4

G.I.S..... 5

Health News 6

Student Aid Program
Update.....7

Recreation Dept.....8

Tribal Courts News..9

Cultural Dept..... 10

Cultural Dept11

Senior Program
Menu.....12

Bulletin Board.....13

NEWSLETTER
EDITOR

Ted M. Darden

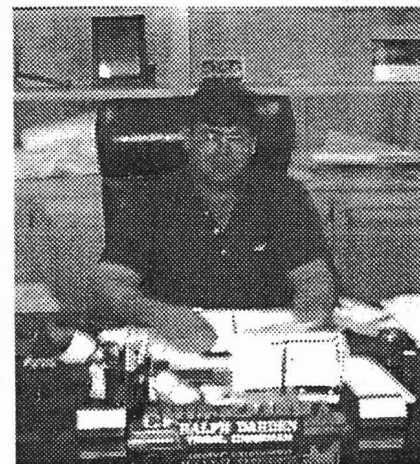
SPECIAL
CONSULTANT
Allan VonWerder

"SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA"

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May the joy and happiness of the holidays be with you and your families.

As the year closes out, the Tribe has made great strides that will begin to show physically in 1997. Construction on new streets should begin soon creating 50 more lots on the reservation. Expansion of the fire station should begin soon with new trucks and adding on to the building. Land acquisitions have been made that will allow expansion of the casino and possibly a nursing home/elderly assisted living facility could be in place by 1998. One of the greatest achievements this year was our youth that made it to the nationals in Cleveland, Ohio in track competition. Thanks to Billy and Jeri St. Blanc for doing such a wonderful job with our children.



Chairman Ralph C. Darden

General Meeting - The general meeting held on December 14th went very well. Good attendance was present to see and hear of future plans to preserve our income stream to provide for the future of this tribe. Presentations on the expansion of the casino were presented by Ed Nigro, consultant hired by the Tribe for master planning and development, and architects of the Jeter, Cook and Jetson firm of Connecticut that designed Foxwoods Casino for the Pequot Tribe. Due to the increased bus business, we now need a bus entrance with a lobby and also a larger facility to accommodate our slot customers. We have outgrown the Raintree Room due to having over 100,000 slot members. This is much higher than our expectations ever was. A new facility consisting of approximately 45,000 square feet was approved unanimously by the General Council. This facility will not only provide accommodations for slot parties but will enable us to attract other forms of entertainment such as headline entertainment, craft shows, boat shows and perhaps conventions. Set costs for this facility is 7 million and the bus entrance an additional 1 million. Construction will begin sometime in late March. Concepts of a master planned community was presented by Terry Martin, President of Chitimacha Development Corporation, Ed Nigro and Guy Ferris of KTGy from California. Guy's firm has designed master planned communities world wide. Plans showed houses that could be constructed and sold, apartments that would be leased by the Tribe. A new highway should soon begin that would connect the reservation with 182 in Baldwin. This could start probably by this summer. Land acquired next to the casino will be used to develop new forms of recreation and also a hotel and R.V. park. A portion of that land will be used to expand the reservation. Currently, Guy Ferris is working on plans to enhance the looks of the reservation that will be presented to you soon.

Brandywine Senior Care

Owners of Brandywine visited the reservation on December the 11th. We had lunch at the Senior Center and discussed some of the needs with the elders. A concept of what we need is now in place, however, more information is needed. Patty LeBlanc will be trying to get that information. We need to know from off-reservation members if they are willing to participate and what their needs are. It appears that the facility will be constructed to provide elderly assisted living, partial nursing home and possibly a child care center. Plans are to try and build this facility on the Henry Thomas estate property. This is the property in the middle of the reservation located next to my house. We have met with the owners and negotiated a price on the land. That price is \$52,500. A buy/sell agreement has been drafted and sent to their attorney for his review. We will soon have a signing of the agreement and the process to clear the title will take from 6 - 8 months.

In closing, I would like to let you know that a general meeting is planned for January the 18th at 2 p.m. in the school gym. Tribal financial statements will be presented. Please try to attend.

Until Next Month!!!

"Kop's Korner"



News from the Chitimacha P.D.
Frank McCloskey, Police Chief

NOV/DEC 1996

For the month of November 1996, six traffic citations were issued--4 for speeding, 1 for no driver's license, and 1 for careless driving. One compulsory insurance violation was issued and the license plate was pulled and turned in to the Motor Vehicle Office in Franklin. Four arrests were logged for the month of November 1996--1 for theft, 1 for remaining where forbidden, 1 for simple assault, and one subject was arrested on charges of simple assault, simple battery, disturbing the peace intoxicated and remaining where forbidden.

To date, for the month of December 1996, seven traffic citations were issued--3 for speeding, 2 for no driver's license, 1 for no seat belt, and 1 for a stop sign violation. One subject that was stopped for a traffic violation was also arrested and turned over to the Jeanerette Police Department, after learning there was an outstanding arrest warrant for disturbing the peace by fighting.

BUCKLEDOWN BASICS

One of the most confusing questions for parents of young children is when to turn their child from rear-facing seating to forward facing. Why should babies ride backwards? And why should they ride facing the back of the car for the entire first year of life? There is a very good reason for infants under age one to ride facing the rear: to protect their necks from

spinal cord injury. A reclined, rearward-facing restraint cushions the baby's back, head, and neck in a frontal impact. Recent research has led pediatricians to push for babies to ride rear-facing for a minimum of one year. This is because a baby's neck muscles take time to develop. Under age one these muscles often are not strong enough to protect the spinal cord adequately. Very serious injuries have been documented to babies riding facing forward. A common sight, however, is a young baby riding facing forward! Parents usually have no idea why the front-facing position is less safe for a baby. They need encouragement to keep their baby turned backwards. This is especially true when they are also being told that their baby should ride in the rear seat, even when the driver is the only adult in the vehicle. **With passenger side air bags, the back seat for a rear-facing restraint is critically important. The safest place for children of all ages is the back seat.**

DECEMBER 1996 NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING 3D PREVENTION MONTH.

DECEMBER 20, 1996
LIGHTS ON FOR LIFE DAY
To alert the public to the
dangers of impaired driving.

DRUNKEN DRIVING IS NO ACCIDENT

"There is no such thing as an alcohol-related 'accident.' Accidents can't be helped. Drunken driving incidents are 'crashes'--predictable and preventable."

HOW TO SPOT AN IMPAIRED DRIVER

- Makes turn into intersection wider than necessary.
- Straddles center lane or lane marker.
- Driver looks or acts out of the ordinary (e.g. has eye fixation on road; drives with head out of window; gestures erratically or obscenely).
- Narrowly misses another vehicle or object by driving or passing too close.
- Weaves from one side of the

road to other.

- Drives on wrong side of road; on areas not designated for traffic; or off the road completely.
- Serves away from generally straight course, usually after drifting.
- Drives at very slow speed--at least 10 mph below limit.
- Stops without cause in traffic lane, usually at intersection of place where driver must make a decision.
- Follows another vehicle too close.
- Drifts from one lane to other, or from straight course to one side of road.
- Drives with tires consistently on center lane or lane marker.
- Brakes unnecessarily or in uneven or "jerky" manner.
- Drives into opposing or crossing traffic or down wrong-way lane.
- Signals inconsistently with driving action.
- Slow to respond to traffic signal.
- Stops inappropriately in such areas as crosswalks, across lanes, or for yellow or green traffic signals.
- Makes abrupt or illegal turn with excessive speed; from wrong lane; while making U-turn; or from outside lane.
- Accelerates and decelerates more rapidly or excessively than necessary.
- Drives with headlights off.

Know What to Look for and TAKE A STAND! Help Keep Impaired Drivers from Behind the Wheel. Report Incidents to the Nearest Law Enforcement Agency.

IF YOU PLAN TO DRINK, THINK AHEAD AND DESIGNATE A NON-DRINKING DRIVER.

REMEMBER! OFFICERS EMPHASIZE THAT THE DESIGNATED DRIVER IS NOT THE LEAST INTOXICATED PERSON IN THE GROUP....IT'S THE SOBER PERSON IN THE GROUP.

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

Notes from the desk of the Tribal Administrator

Hello! I am Toby Darden and I serve the Tribal Council as the Tribal Administrator. In this capacity I am responsible for the overall administration of the federal programs that the Tribe contracts with the government.

Administering programs involves many areas including planning, budgeting, negotiating, contracting, monitoring, assessing, reporting, and supervising program directors. Although there are many areas to be covered, we have an excellent staff to assist in meeting the requirements of these areas. Anita Cook serves as the Deputy Administrator, Earlene Thomas assists us greatly as our Administrative Assistant, and the Planning Department including Patty LeBlanc, Ted Darden, & Chuck Fontenot, is intensely involved in many of the aspects of programs administration. Each program is overseen by a Program Director who implements the goals and objectives established in the contracts.

The federal programs that we contract are: Health, Courts, Law Enforcement, Scholarships, Social Services, Community Fire Protection, Roads Maintenance, Aid to Tribal Government, Housing Improvement, Facilities Operation & Maintenance, Community Development Block Grants, and Education (Tribal School which is administered by the School Board). We receive approximately two million in federal funds annually which provide for direct services to tribal members and staff to provide these services. We now employ a total of 103 people in various departments - administration (26), school (24), health (11), courts (3), police (13), public works (6), gaming commission (17), and insurance department (3).

This year (1996) our federal funding was cut by Congress. We were able to maintain our service levels with unspent carry-over funds from 1995. Our 1997 fund allocation appears to be about the same as '96, 15% short of need. For 1997 the Council has allocated some tribal funding in the event the federal programs run out. Some members of Congress have proposed to reduce federal funding to tribes who have casinos. A bill was introduced in Congress last session to study just this "means testing" for Tribes. Fortunately the bill was not passed, although it is certain to be reintroduced in '97. Tribes are under attack due to recent successes of a few casino operations. Some in Congress use these few wealthy tribes as examples to say that all Indians with casinos are rich and no longer need federal funding. Whether tribes need it or not, the U.S. Government has an inherent responsibility to all Tribes, based on treaties that tribes signed giving up more than two billion acres of native lands, to provide for the health,

education, safety, and welfare of all Indians. Saying this is easy, making the new Congress live up to it is the challenge.

Till next month, best wishes!

Human Services Department

The holidays are here again and sadly during this time of year when everyone should be the happiest is when there is the most depression. There are more suicides and suicide attempts during the month of December than any other month of the year. Also, more people drink during this time of year. Depression is caused by many reasons but the two main ones are not having the finances to buy gifts for the family and being alone during the holidays. Alcohol is a depressant so when a depressed person drinks they become more depressed and it just snowballs for them. Since this is the time for giving, if you know someone who is having financial difficulties, try to help them get something for the family. If you know someone who would otherwise be alone, invite them to join your family for Christmas. Sharing a meal with another person may be the highlight of that person's year. Look around you and see if there is someone you can reach out to and make both your and their Christmas a little better.

Latest News from Social Security:

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits will increase 2.9 percent, beginning with the payments that Social Security beneficiaries receive January 3 and SSI recipients receive on December 31. For SS beneficiaries, the average monthly benefit amount for all retired workers will rise approximately \$21 and for SSI recipients approximately \$14.

If you did not get your flu shot at the Health Fair, Medicare Part B will pay for both flu and pneumonia shots. It is recommended that you get both if you are over age 65.

Happy Holidays from the Human Services Department. Make this a safe, clean and sober year. Remember little eyes are watching you so that they will know what to do when they grow up.

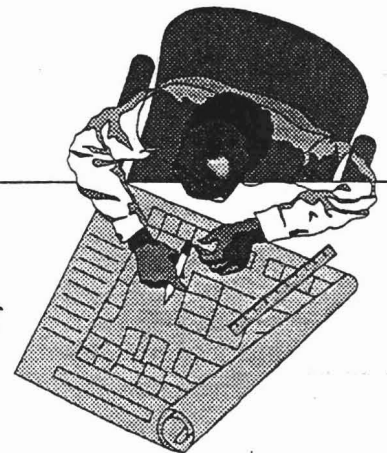
C_{hitimacha}

D_{evelopment}

C_{orporation}

&

Department of **PLANNING**



Chitimacha Development Corporation

By: Brian Headley

The Plans and Specifications for the new Reservation residential roadways are finally in. We had several delays such as the utility providers, sewerage system and drainage rerouting. The plans are in my office and are expected to go out for bidding in the near future. The Public works Department and I are very pleased with the plans and specifications for this project. The engineering firm has performed a very detailed job. I requested that these plans have the NGD (National Geodetic Datum) included with the set of drawings. This will allow for the precise locations of all construction and features to be placed into our new computerized database. This project was funded through the Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Assistance to States, Program. The Tribe's financial portion was 50% of the Engineering and Design of these roadways, while the Corps of Engineers matched our funds for the completion of the E&D. Thanks to the Planning Department, (Patty, Ted and Chuck), who wrote the grant for the Construction funding.

For those of you who exercise, whether it is walking, running or bicycling on Chitimacha Trail, or have children who walk on this road, will be pleased with this news. The Chitimacha Tribe has submitted its 50% funding to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Engineering and design of a closed drainage system with sidewalks. This is part of the Reservation enhancement program. The safety and aesthetic benefits of this project will be a great asset to the Tribe.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) is working superbly. We can obtain almost all needed land base information by accessing the data in the computer. I have been relying on it heavily for all the future development in and around the Reservation. If anyone wants to stop by and check it out, let me know.

In addition, The Tribe was featured in a National Engineering Newsletter, "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Monthly". The following is the article:

(Continued on Next Page)

[The following article was published in the October 1996 "Riverside" magazine, a US Army Corps of Engineers monthly.]

Global information system provides tool for future planning

By Julie Aitken

"Our Flood Plain Management Services and Planning assistance to States programs are important parts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' new starts and new initiatives for Fiscal Year 1996. The Presidents FY 96 budget provides for a significant increase in the funding of these programs by taking them to their legislative limits...These programs are receiving high visibility and considerable attention will be focused on their FY 96 performance. It is critical to the Corps Water Resources Program that we succeed." Maj. Gen. Stanley Genega, Former Director of Civil Works

Long before European settlement along the Gulf of Mexico in the late 17th century, the Chitimacha Indians were inhabiting the central portions of southern Louisiana. They lived along the Lafourche and Teche bayous, and within the Atchafalaya Basin along Grand Lake and Bayou Plaquemine. They traveled between their villages and knew the lay of the land.

Today, the Chitimacha are unique among Indian tribes in Louisiana. They are still located on their historic homeland, with the majority of them living in their principle village at Charenton. But knowledge of their current lands is obtained in a more sophisticated method -- geographic information system (GIS) land based maps.

GIS encompasses the concepts of both automated mapping, database management, and computer graphics to show the spatial relationships of information contained in the database. The GIS base maps produced for the Chitimacha included a combination of global positioning surveys (GPS), low altitude aerial photography, and stereocompilation of the physical ground features of the reservation.

GPS uses a constellation of 27 satellites to gather survey points strategically placed in the area to be surveyed. Aerial photographs are scanned into digital format and stereocompiled, a procedure where the three dimensional aspects of aerial photos are traced. These three features are combined in a microstation environments to form GIS land based maps.

"New Orleans District provided the Chitimacha with GIS maps loaded on a CD-ROM along with hard copy component maps with two-foot contouring and all visible features," said Dabney Wallace, chief, Photo Team in Drafting Branch. "And we are in the process of creating a database with attributions of the physical features that have been stereocompiled." Dabney explained that the program's database acts as a repository of collected information on geographic features such as earth layers, utilities, roads, vegetation and soil types, sewerage, buildings and property parcels.

"The Chitimacha can add individual attributes to the information provided by the maps," explained Paul Varnade, lead cartographic technician. "This could include residential addresses and street names for 911 purposes, property owners and property value for tax assessments, sewer line sizes and gas line pressures. The possibilities are endless."

Brian Headley, the Chitimacha's economic development planner, is depending on the information software system to solve multiple scenarios. "GIS has given us the tools to better plan for the reservation's residential, commercial, historical and cultural future development," said Brian. "Among other things, it'll provide us with alternative scenarios to compare existing elevations and drainage patterns."

The district's assistance to the Chitimacha springs from a new federal initiative to provide flood plain management services and planning assistance to the states. These initiatives have a direct impact on water resource concerns, according to Mark Wingate, study manager. "Water supply, flood damages and environmental issues can be addressed through these programs," explained Mark. "They enable us to intensify our support to the states and to the Native American Tribes as their roles and responsibilities in land use management increase."

Similar to the Chitimacha, the cities of Hammond and Pontchatoula, and the town of St. Gabriel, in addition to East Baton Rouge and Plaquemines parishes, approached the Corps requesting water resource mapping and were provided with aerial photography, survey information and controlled scanned photography.

"GIS is a beneficial planning tool," said Mark. "Information is easily accessible between departments in the same city, parish or tribe, and any modification, such as a change to a sewer line, immediately becomes available to each of the departments. We feel it is inevitable that all communities will eventually use automated information systems and it is our goal to assist any community in that direction."

Health Department News
By: Peggy Gaddy, RN, Health Director

HEALTH FAIR A BIG SUCCESS!

On November 26th, the Health Dept. sponsored a health fair at the school gym. I am very proud to say that 123 people participated. A big thanks to Dr. Hendry and Dixie from Iberia General Hospital who so willingly donated their time and resources. Also thanks to Dr. Chua and his staff for lending their support in giving flu shots to 96 people. United Blood Services and the Health Dept. would like to especially thank the 20 individuals who donated blood. That was very courageous of you. I would like to personally thank my staff who worked so hard to make the Health Fair the success it was.

APPOINTMENTS

If you require transportation to medical appointments, please notify the Health Department of the appointment in advance. Appointments should be scheduled no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and no later than 3:00 p.m. for longer distances. No transportation will be available on Fridays, so please DO NOT schedule appointments on Fridays if you need transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is reserved for those who do not have any means of transportation of their own or any available family members, such as the elderly. Call if you need directions to Medical facilities. Also, we can only transport children without a parent if they are at least 12 years old. Sometimes there is a need to combine more than one appointment in the same direction together. This may cause you to have to go earlier or stay later than expected. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you, however there is a limited number of employees and time for transportation services.

PERSONAL INSURANCE

Clients with personal insurance must keep the Health Department informed of changes in insurance coverage. Remember to bring your explanation of benefits to the CMC office. We need a copy to determine the balance that is owed on your medical bills.

MEDICAL BILLS/STATEMENTS

Some medical bills are not sent to the Health Department by the provider; they are billed directly to your residence. It is your responsibility to bring those bills to the Health Department. For example, when you have an x-ray done at the hospital, you will receive another bill for the radiologist fees. You must bring those in as soon as you receive them.

MEDICAID CLIENTS

The Health Department requires a copy of your Medicaid Card each month. Bring in any correspondence you receive from the Medicaid office concerning your Medicaid case.

NOTIFICATION

You must notify the Health Department regarding all visits to a physician, hospital, dentist or other provider. Report visits to the Health Department at 923-9955 between 7:30 and 5:00 Monday through Thursday and 7:30 through 11:30 on Friday. Ask for Madeline or Mildred. Non-emergency care: you are required to pick up a form at the Health Dept. to bring with you to the doctor, hospital or other.

EMERGENCY CARE

If you have an emergency on the weekend or when the Health Department office is closed, you are required to notify the Health Department within 72 hours. Additional time is allowed if the office is closed because of a holiday. In that case, you must call the earliest working day. Emergency visits must be reported to the Health Department office during regular working hours.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DR. DESHOTEL WILL BE HERE ON DECEMBER 19TH FOR ANYONE WISHING TO SEE HIM.

Student Aid Program

Update: 11/1/96

Spring Applications: Due to the revision of the Program Guidelines, the Spring applications have been delayed. As of today (11-1-96), the new application forms are being prepared for distribution. These forms will be forwarded to our program participants as soon as possible. Because of the delay, the December application deadline has been extended to December 10, 1996.

The Committee will meet on or about December 13th to make awards determinations. All applicants are urged to **READ** all information contained in their application packets because there have been changes made to the forms. **REMEMBER:** Do not leave any blanks when completing your application forms.

The records of each applicant will be screened to determine if the required documentation has been submitted. Any applicant wishing to be considered for funding **MUST** have provided the following to close-out their previous semester records:

1. Class schedule for previous semester
2. Tuition receipt
3. SAR (or have contact this office concerning Federal Aid).
4. Receipts for books & supplies if requested.

If you have any problems with completing the new forms, please feel free to call.

New Guidelines: The long awaited revised Guidelines is almost complete. It has been a long hard process to get these guidelines revised. As of now, the Committee has given its final approval. The next step is to get approval by the Tribal

Council. Once the new Guidelines have been adopted by the Tribal Council, copies will be distributed to all current program participants. Others will receive a copy upon applying to the program.

Community Pay-Back: During the month of November, the Annual Fall Feast and the Annual Health Fair will be held. Any student wishing to participate in these activities needs to contact this office.

Also, I have had a request by the Insurance Department for help during the Christmas break. They are in need of students who are computer literate. If your schedule permits and you are computer literate, please contact me to schedule your hours.

Enrollment News - December 1996

DECEMBER 31, 1996 DEADLINE!!!

December 31st is the deadline for enrollment to be eligible to participate in the 1996 Per Capita program. At the Tribal Council meeting held on November 21, 1996, the Council has extended this deadline for our newborns. The Council has directed that any newborn placed on the enrollment waiting list prior to 12-31-96 will have until March 31, 1997 to finalize enrollment.

So, if you have yet to enroll your newborn or you are expecting your child before the 12-31-96 deadline, you must notify this office to have your child placed on the waiting list. If you fail to notify this office by the deadline date, your child will not be eligible for the 1996 Per Capita program.

Chitimacha Enrollment Office

P.O Box 661

Charenton, LA 70523

(318) 923- 7000

Chitimacha Recreation Department

By Jeri St.Blanc, Recreation Coordinator

Wow! What a busy month we've had! We hosted our first cross-country meet Tuesday, November 19th. The race started at the Chitimacha Tribal School and wended through the country roads of the reservation for the two mile route.

Results for the four divisions are as follows:

Pee Wee Girls

- 1st - Adrianna Bernard- Chitimacha
- 2nd - Shannon Cook- Chitimacha
- 3rd - Cierra Johnson- Chitimacha
- 4th - Arielle Darden- Chitimacha
- 5th - Hannah LaGarde- Chitimacha

Pee Wee Boys

- 1st - Matthew Darden-Chitimacha
- 2nd - Roy Dwyer- Chitimacha
- 3rd - Russel Caffery- St.John
- 4th - Kaston Fluke- Chitimacha
- 5th - Jacob Picard- Chitimacha

Bantam Girls

- 1st Chelsey Cook- Chitimacha

Bantam Boys

- 1st Blaise St.Blanc- St.John
- 2nd Donalson Caffery- Centerville
- 3rd - Grant LaGarde- Chitimacha
- 4th - Robert Brown- Chitimacha
- 5th - Slade Bobbit- Chitimacha

Midget Girls

- 1st Tasia Bernard- Chitimacha
- 2nd Toni Darden- Chitimacha
- 3rd Morgan Martin- Chitimacha

Midget Boys

- 1st Eric Brown -Chitimacha
- 2nd Lonnie Martin- Chitimacha
- 3rd Darrell Toups- Chitimacha

- 4th Brandt Johnson- Chitimacha

- 5th - Allen Gordy- St.John

Youth Girls

- 1st Natalie Vilcan- Chitimacha
- 2nd Lacy Fonenot- Chitimacha
- 3rd Amy Darden- Chitimacha

Youth Boys

- 1st Jarrod Deslatte- Chitimacha
- 2nd Billy St.Blanc- Hanson
- 3rd James Smith- Hanson

We would like to thank the school faculty, staff, student body, parents, maintenance department and police department for the help in the cross-country meet. It was a safe and successful meet. Next year, hopefully we will have more of the surrounding communities to participate.

Our cross-country team competed in the Regional AAU Meet in Hammond on November 30th. They did a wonderful job representing the Tribe. Our team ran personal best times across the board and many qualified for the National Championship in Cleveland, Ohio. Our runners dominated each division. Results for the meet are as follows.

Bantam Boys:

- 1st - Blaise St.Blanc
- 2nd - Donalson Caffery
- 3rd - Robert Brown
- 4th - Scott Krugur- New Orleans
- 5th - Grant LaGarde
- 6th - Matt Bertrand- Hammond
- 7th - Mathew Darden
- 8th - Jake Darden
- 9th - Kaston Fluke
- 10th - John Smith

Bantam Girls

- 1st - Sara Kay- Hammond
- 2nd - Adrianna Bernard

Midget Boys

- 1st -Lonnie Martin
- 2nd - Eric Brown
- 3rd - Boo Toups
- 4th - Chris Seber- Denham Springs
- 5th - Chris Shaley- Denham Springs
- 6th - Brandt Johnson

Midget Girls

- 1st -Kate Accardo
- 2nd - Tasia Bernard
- 3rd - Toni Darden

Youth Boys

- 1st - B.J. Clark- Denham Springs
- 2nd - Jarrod Deslatte
- 3rd - Billy St.Blanc
- 4th - James Cobble
- 5th - Ben Nickens- Denham Springs

Youth Girls

- 1st - Kristen Trosclair- Ponchatula
- 2nd - Marla Krueger- New Orleans
- 3rd - Amy Darden
- 4th - Lacey Fonetnot

Our team packed our bags and headed north for the National Championship in Cleveland. Although the we didn't bring home any medals, we competed against the best cross-country runners across the country gaining the experience we need to train for next year's season. We thank the Tribe and Cypress Bayou for the support. Without you we could not have had this "grand experience"! Thank- you!

Aerobics Aerobics Aerobics

Aerobics classes have begun! Get out your tights and start exercising. Classes are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-6:00 P.M. We're starting off slowly and will design a program that will fit your level of fitness. Wear whatever you feel comfortable in.

New Fitness Center hours are now in effect.

In addition to the hours that the Fitness Center has been operating, we have added after work hours.

Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 5:00-6:30 P.M. (Women Only)

Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 6:30-8:00 P.M. (Everyone)

Tuesday..... 5:00-8:00 P.M. (Everyone)

Saturday..... :8:00-10:00 A.M. (Everyone)

TRIBAL COURT NEWS

From: Holly A. Robicheaux, Tribal Courts Director

COURT STATISTICS:

As of December 12,1996 there were a total of **38** cases filed for the months of November & December; **22** Civil Actions(16 Garnishments/ 5 Judgment Debtor Rules/ 1 Petition for Restraining Orders); **12** Traffic; **1** Criminal , **1** Juvenile and **2** Domestic Relations.

Additionally, **50** Assignments were recorded in the Tribal Court for the month of November, 1996 thru December 12th.

CASES PENDING AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1996:

Tribal Court:

- 12 - Civil (12 Tort Actions)
- 01- Criminal
- 02 - Juvenile
- 04 - Traffic

Tribal Appellate Court:

- 01 - Civil Tort Action

YEAR TO DATE TOTAL - MORTGAGE AND LIEN RECORDS: (As of Dec. 12th)

- 239 Assignments
- 03 Mortgages
- 03 Corrections
- 01 Security Agreement

COURT SESSIONS:

Our monthly Tribal Court session for November was held on November 6, 1996, at which time 8 cases were scheduled to be heard; 2 Domestic Actions(1 Petition For Divorce and 1 Petition

for Disbursement of Funds); 4 Regular Civil Complaints(Initial Hearing and Trials); and 2 Civil Traffic Infractions.

There was a special session scheduled for November 4, 1996 at which time a Trial on the Merits of a Civil Tort Action was to be heard, but was continued to a later date.

There was also a special Juvenile session conducted on November 25, 1996, at which time an Initial Hearing/Hearing on Motion To Transfer on a Delinquent/Status Offender was heard.

Our monthly Tribal Court session for December was held on December 11, 1996, at which time 13 cases were scheduled to be heard;

2 Juvenile(Review Hearings); 1 Criminal Arraignment; 3 Domestic Relations(1 Hear. Pet. For Change in Custody, 1 Hear. On Visitation, 1 Rule To Show Cause/Contempt); 5 Civil Traffic Infractions and 2 Civil Tort Actions(Preliminary Hearings).

Our next regularly scheduled Tribal Court Session is January 8, 1997 with open session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

TRIBAL COURT OF APPEALS:

On November 12, 1996, the Tribal Court of Appeals, on which were seated; Honorable Edward A. dela Houssaye, as Chief Judge and the Honorable C. Thomas Bienvenu and Honorable P. J. LaBorde, as Associate Judges, conducted Oral Arguments regarding one (1) Civil Tort Action presently on Appeal.

The Tribal Court Staff would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Court, please feel free to contact the Court at 923-7806.

Cultural Department News

Three weeks ago at the Louisiana Indian Heritage Association Pow-Wow in Robert, Louisiana Eric Brown (son of Melissa Darden) entered in the Jr.craft competition. His entry was a small basket tray, the second one he has made. Congratulations Eric for placing first and winning a blue ribbon! Mom, Melissa Darden, entered in the Senior Craft Competition with a double weave basket with the Black birds eye and worm track design and also placed first and won a blue ribbon in her category.

Congratulations to both of you guys!

Congratulations also go out to Kelly Thomas, daughter of Charles and Earlene Thomas, for doing a spectacular job for her college finals in Anthropology on Native American Studies. Kelly's class requirement was a twenty minute verbal presentation on the Native American Tribe of her choice and a paper which has the possibility of being published. Of course, Kelly chose her most favorite Native American Tribe, the Chitimacha! Much hard work and research was done in preparation for this class and it was well worth it, earning an "A" in the verbal presentation and passing the semester with a "B". Kelly's presentation style was unique to the USL college community as she dressed in the traditional regalia of the Chitimacha, complete with mocassins, traditional face paint and hair style.

Unique also was that her entire presentation was done Indian way, verbally with no reference to paperwork. She brought along a few Chitimacha baskets (loaned by Chairman Darden), rare slides on basket weaving from the Cultural Department and much information. 35 minutes of questions were put forth to her from her classmates and the professor and the class left with a much greater understanding of the Historical Chitimacha. Kelly graduates this Saturday, December 14th from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Once again, congratulations Kelly!

Charmagne Stechmann, Chitimacha college student from the University of New Orleans and then the Law School of Loyola, graduated in May of 1996 with a Juris Doctorate degree and will be taking the bar exam in February. Charmagne is the first Chitimacha college student to graduate with a degree in law. Charmagne is currently employed with Baldwin and Haspel, L.L.C of New Orleans.

Congratulations and the best of luck with the bar exam Charmagne!

Dillard University students recently came to the reservation for a tour of the Tribal museum and a tour of the Chitimacha Tribal School. The group totaled thirty in all and was led by Dr. McGinnis, Dean of College. All of the students were majoring in history and in religion. Barbara did a wonderful job of educating the visitors on the Chitimacha.

Miss Pat Mora led an entourage of senior visitors on a grand tour of the reservation, a box lunch on the Cultural Department side of the Senior/Youth Center, and finished up with a tour of the Tribal Museum. Ms. Beverly Ladnier was the organizer for the USL group of seniors.

NEWS FROM THE PAST

The first documented known contact of the French with the Chitimacha is in the year 1700, when a traveling party of French descending down the Mississippi came across a large Chitimacha village. This village was located at the mouth of the Mississippi entrance to Bayou LaFourche, called the "River of the Chitimachas".

Shortly after the first contact with the French, many small battles starting occurring. Raiding of villages , resulting in the capture of women and children to be sold into slavery became a frequent occurrence. The Chitimacha warriors tried to defend their homes against these unwelcome people, but many died. Documented raids in old French journals show the butchery of the Chitimacha by the French.

The French leaders such as St. Denis went against explicit orders from the French government to leave the Indian tribes in peace, to try to win their alliance by gifts and kindness. St. Denis, taken from written documentation in his journals, would lead unauthorized expeditions because he was bored and wanted to create strife that would give the French government an excuse to declare war against the Native Americans in the southern part of the state. In 1702 St. Denis led an unauthorized raid against the Chitimacha in the area of Donaldsonville, killing men, women and children. Twenty of the women and children were captured and forced to walk for hundreds of miles to the city of Mobile, where they were then put on the auction block and sold into slavery. The Chitimacha, in retaliation to the French raids, started attacking French expedition parties, trying to stop them

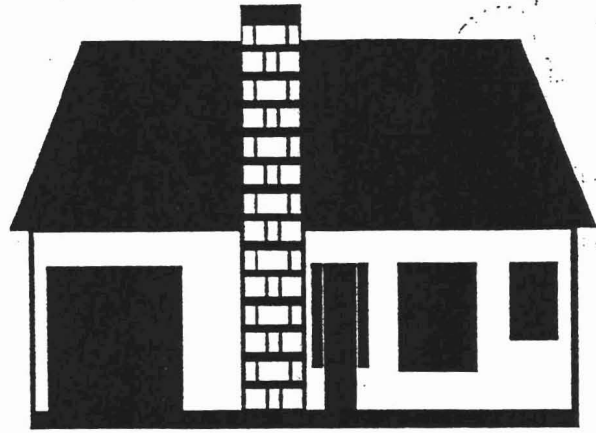
(Continued on Next Page)

(Continued from Page 10)

from reaching their villages. It was in the year 1706 that such a party of the Chitimacha came across the traveling group of St. Cosme, the French missionary, and three Frenchmen and a Natchez slave. The missionary and the three Frenchmen were killed, with the Natchez slave escaping and bringing word to St. Denis of the attack. Because of this last action, Bienville who was Governor of Louisiana at that time, ordered that war be declared against the Chitimacha. For the next twelve years battles raged throughout many Chitimacha villages as the French sought them out, attacking, capturing and killing many, with no discretion for their age or gender. Bienville offered ten crowns (six dollars) for each scalp brought back to him as proof that the Chitimacha were dead, with the same amount offered for each Chitimacha that was brought to him alive. He wanted the Chitimacha warrior responsible for the death of St. Cosme brought to him alive. In one of the raids on a Chitimacha village at the entrance to the River of the Chitimachas (Bayou LaFourche), the warrior responsible for St. Cosme's death was captured. He was brought before Bienville with irons on his hands and his feet. Bienville had him bound to a wooden horse and his head was broken with the blow of a stick (tomahawked), then his scalp was taken and his body was then thrown into the water. The French continued on with attacks on the Chitimacha, determined to eliminate them all. A fishing party of twenty Chitimachas with their women and children were attacked by the French, with several being killed. The others escaped and went to warn their village. A raid on the village ensued, with twenty of the Chitimacha women and children being captured and sent to Mobile to be sold as slaves. The French made an alliance with the Houma, Chaouachas and the Bayougoula to war against the Chitimacha in 1709.

The Chitimacha were then being attacked by French and also neighboring Indian tribes. The ultimate goal; to annihilate the Chitimacha.

NEXT MONTH: The end of the Chitimacha/French war in 1718.



ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

Assisted Living Facility Information Needed

The Chitimacha Planning Department is currently in the process of soliciting information regarding the number of tribal members who have a genuine interest in living in an "Assisted Living" facility. In this type of facility, the resident would be near other residents in a sort of communal type of setup. This facility would provide for personal independence plus relieve the resident of the burdensome task of yard upkeep and home maintenance problems.

It would be very helpful to the Planning Department if we received some input from tribal members regarding their thoughts about what parameters should be established regarding the type of assistance the residents should be provided.

A questionnaire form will soon be available at the tribal office for anyone interested in becoming a resident of an "Assisted Living" facility. The questionnaire will include general information needed by our department as back-up information to start the planning process. The questionnaire will be very general in nature and all information obtained will be held in the strictest of confidence.

So, if you would please come by the Tribal Office, Planning Department and speak to Patty, Chuck, or Ted, they will put your name on the list as one of the future residents of the Assisted Living facility.

CHITIMACHA SENIOR PROGRAM CALENDAR
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 1996

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dec. 2, 1996 Chicken Stew, Rice, Cabbage, Salad, Cherry Crisps and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 3, 1996 White Beans, Rice, Smothered Steak, Mustard, Banana Pudding and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 4, 1996 Breakfast Chili, Corn Bread Muffins, Baked Sweet Potatoes, Orange Surprise and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 5, 1996 Beef Roast, Green Beans, Rice, Salad, Pie and Rolls	Dec. 6, 1996 Tuna Fish Sandwiches, Salmon Patties, Fries and Ice Cream
Dec. 9, 1996 Meatloaf, Macaroni & Cheese, Corn, Salad, Pudding and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 10, 1996 Fried Pork Chops, Creamed Potatoes, Peas, Salad, Jello and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 11, 1996 Breakfast Red Beans, Sausage, Smothered Okra and Cracker Pudding BINGO	Dec. 12, 1996 Chicken Gumbo, Rice, Potato Salad, Pie and Rolls	Dec. 13, 1996 Roast Beef & Turkey Sandwiches, Chips and Brownies
Dec. 16, 1996 Pork Roast, Lima Beans, Candied Yams, Apple Crisps and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 17, 1996 Baked Chicken, Cheese Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Salad, Muffins and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 18, 1996 Breakfast Beef Stew, Rice, Mustard, Salad, Pie and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 19, 1996 Shrimp Stew, Rice, Corn, Potato Salad, Cake and Rolls	Dec. 20, 1996 Fried Catfish, Salmon Patties, Fries and Fruit
Dec. 23, 1996 Christmas Party @ 5:30 p.m. - Baked Ham and Brisket, Rice Dressing, Green Bean Casserole, Candied Yams, Cake and Rolls BINGO	Dec. 24, 1996 Chicken Salad Sandwiches, Chips and Fruit BINGO	Dec. 25, 1996 Closed - Have a Safe & Holy Holiday Season Merry Christmas	Dec. 26, 1996 Vegetable Soup, Baked Sweet Potatoes, Orange Surprise and Rolls	Dec. 27, 1996 Hot Dogs, Chips and Fruit
Dec. 30, 1996 Pork Roast, Black Eye Peas, Cabbage, Rice and Jello BINGO	Dec. 31, 1996 Corn Soup, Ham Sandwiches, Crackers and Ice Cream BINGO	Jan. 1, 1997 Closed Happy New Year	January 2, 1997 Chili, Corn Bread Muffins, Salad and Cherry Crisps	Jan. 3, 1997 Hamburgers, Fries, Brownies and Fruit

December Birthdays

Milton Bernard - December 3
 Lorena B. Mora - December 6
 Mary Aline Darden - December 7

Elda Talley - December 8
 John A. Darden, Sr. - December 16
 Lillian LeBlanc - December 24

Lucille Landry - December 27
 Rita Darden - December 29



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

Please Take Note of This!!!

Aerobics will be held on Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m. at the Fitness Center
For Ladies Only!!!

&

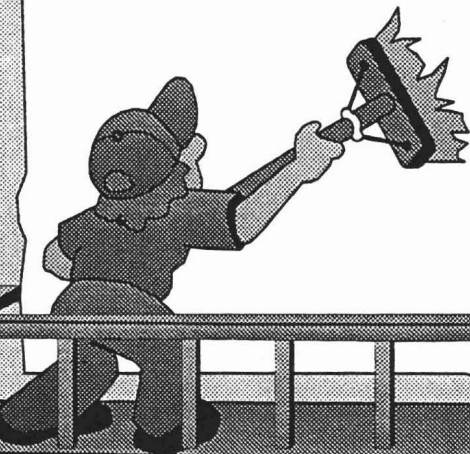
Line Dancing will be held on Tuesday
between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. also at the Fitness Center

Notice!!!

THE GREATER IBERIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is sponsoring a campaign
"Resolve to Save Lives '97" on January 4th from 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 P.M. at Iberia
General Hospital 2315 E. Main St. New Iberia. The drive is being held to benefit
three agencies, LOPA - the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency will hold an
organ donation sign up for those wishing to be organ donors at time of death, United
Blood Services of Acadiana will have a blood mobile on site to take blood donations
and the National Bone Marrow Resistry will conduct a drive to sign up individuals
of all races to become bone marrow donors IF a match is made...

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A DONOR TO ANY OR ALL OF THESE WORTHY CAUSES

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year from
The Staff of the
Chitimacha Tribe of La.



Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton LA 70523
